

DESCRIPTION

The 103 square mile Lagunitas Creek watershed is the largest watershed in Marin County. Primary tributaries are San Geronimo, Devil's Gulch, Nicasio Creek, and Olema Creek. A large part of the watershed is within State and Federal parklands; the largest landowner is the National Park Service. The second largest landowner is Marin Municipal Water District, and Marin County Open Space District holds about 2,000 acres in the watershed. There are a number of small towns along the San Geronimo Creek tributary.

This watershed is of statewide significance for coho salmon and California freshwater shrimp, as well as steelhead. The Marin Municipal Water District dams the creek in its upper reaches for municipal drinking water. Lagunitas Creek and its tributaries are listed as impaired for nutrients, sediments, and pathogens. Nonpoint source (NPS inputs) include failing septic systems, urban runoff, and agricultural runoff. Urban uses and old logging roads also contribute sediment to the watershed.



Lagunitas Creek

(Photo courtesy Marin Municipal Water District).

For more photos, visit the California Coastal Records Project:
www.californiacoastline.org.

REASON FOR CCA IDENTIFICATION

Lagunitas Creek is a 2002 303(d)-listed **impaired waterbody that flows into a Marine Protected Area** (Tomales Bay, part of the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary). Lagunitas Creek also flows through the Samuel P. Taylor State Park and the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

POLLUTED RUNOFF CONDITIONS

	Top 5 Runoff Pollutants of Concern					Efforts to Address Pollutants (See next page)
	<u>2002 303(d)-Listed Pollutants</u> TMDL Priority (& Proposed Completion if available)				<u>Other Pollutant of Concern</u>	
Selected Coastal Zone Waterbodies	<u>Nutrients</u>	<u>Pathogens</u>	<u>Sediment</u>	<u>Mercury</u>	?	
Lagunitas Creek ▲	▲ Low	▲ Low	▲ Medium			a, b, c, d, e, f, g
Tomales Bay ■	■ Medium	■ High (2004)	■ Medium	■ Medium		a, b
Potential Sources of Pollutants in Coastal Waterbodies						
Agriculture	▲ ■	▲ ■	▲ ■			a, b
➤ Intensive Animal Feeding Operation		■				a
Urban Areas						k
➤ Urban Runoff/ Storm Sewers	▲	▲	▲			a, d
➤ Septic		■				a, d
Hydromodification						j
➤ Upstream Impoundment			■			b, c, e, f, g
Wetlands & Riparian Areas						c, h
Resource Extraction						
➤ Mine Tailings				■		

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MAJOR EFFORTS TO IMPLEMENT NPS MANAGEMENT MEASURES

a)	Pathogens in Tomales Bay, Total Maximum Daily Load, Final Project Report, March 12, 2004.	http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb2/tomalesbaypathogenstmdl.htm
	SF Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board	Farhad Ghodrati (510) 622-2331 fghodrati@waterboards.ca.gov
	➤ Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) implementation plan to reduce pathogens in Tomales Bay and tributaries.	
b)	Tomales Bay Watershed Stewardship Plan: A Framework for Action (2003)	http://www.tomalesbaywatershed.org/stewardship.pdf
	Tomales Bay Watershed Council	Neysa King (415) 663-9092 tbwc@horizoncable.com
	➤ Watershed stewardship plan including outreach, education, implementation actions to address NPS pollution	
c)	Lagunitas Creek Sediment and Riparian Management Plan (1997); Fisheries Management Plan (1997)	http://www.marinwater.org/
	Marin Municipal Water District	Greg Andrew (415) 945-1191 gandrew@marinwater.org
	➤ Long-term plans to implement management measures to enhance salmonid fishery on Lagunitas Creek and tributaries, includes assessment, research, placement of large woody debris, erosion control, revegetation projects	
d)	Citizen-Based Water Quality Monitoring and Pollution Control in the Lagunitas Creek Watershed	www.spawnusa.org
	Salmon Protection and Watershed Network	Paola Bouley (415) 488-0370 Paola@SpawnUSA.org
	➤ Grant funded project to do citizen monitoring to provide data for TMDL development and NPS pollution identification and abatement in Lagunitas Creek	
e)	Lagunitas Creek Watershed Enhancement Program	http://www.sonomamarinrcds.org/district-mc/info.html
	Marin Resource Conservation District and Tomales Bay Watershed Council	Nancy Scolari (415) 6631170 marinrcd@svn.net
	➤ Grant funded project to do limiting factors study for salmonids in Lagunitas Creek and implement erosion control and management measures to enhance water quality	
f)	Roads and Trails Management Plan	http://www.marinwater.org/
	Marin Municipal Water District	Greg Andrew (415) 9451191 gandrew@marinwater.org
	➤ Plan to address sedimentation from roads and trails in watershed and park lands	
g)	Lagunitas Watershed Sediment Reduction and Enhancement Project	http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/funding/docs/projsum/lagunitas_wsrep.doc
	County of Marin	Liz Lewis (415) 499-7226 LizLewis@co.marin.ca.us
	➤ Project to address sediment and culverts in Lagunitas Creek and tributaries; Produce a comprehensive GIS database of unpaved roads; reduce input of fine sediment from unpaved roads; restore fish passage and stream morphology.	
h)	Bolinas Lagoon Technical Advisory Committee	http://www.marinopenspace.org/os_BLTAC_agenda_minutes.asp
	Marin County Open Space District	Ron Miska (415) 499-6391 rmiska@co.marin.ca.us parksandopenspace@co.marin.ca.us
	➤ The Committee advises the Marin County Open Space District concerning management of the Bolinas Lagoon Open Space Preserve.	
i)	Long-Term Coho Salmon and Steelhead Trout Monitoring Program - Coastal Marin County	http://www.nps.gov/pore/
	Point Reyes National Seashore	Brannon Ketcham (415) 464-5192 brannon_ketcham@nps.gov

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➤ Support the 8th and 9th year of ongoing salmonid monitoring in Olema Creek, Pine Gulch, Redwood Creek and Cheda Creek in coastal Marin County.			
j)	San Geronimo Creek Bank Stabilization Project		http://www.marinwater.org/
	Marin Municipal Water District	Greg Andrew	(415) 945-1191 gandrew@marinwater.org
➤ Instream Bank Stabilization project at two sites along San Geronimo Creek, on property owned by MMWD. Goal is to reduce fine sediment loading and improve streambed conditions for benefit of coho salmon and steelhead trout.			
k)	Lagunitas Creek Sediment Control - Peters Dam Area		http://www.marinwater.org/
	Marin Municipal Water District	Greg Andrew	(415) 945-1191 gandrew@marinwater.org
➤ Road-related sediment reduction project adjacent to mainstem of Lagunitas Creek, on property owned by MMWD. Goal is to reduce fine sediment loading and improve streambed conditions for benefit of coho salmon and steelhead.			

REGULATORY/PLANNING JURISDICTIONS

➤ Marin County Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program	http://mcstoppp.org/	Liz Lewis	(415) 499-7226	lizlewis@co.marin.ca.us
➤ Marin County, Community Development Dept.	http://www.co.marin.ca.us/depts/CD/main/index.cfm	Thomas Lai	(415) 499-6292	tlai@co.marin.ca.us
➤ Marin Municipal Water District	http://www.marinwater.org/	Greg Andrew	(415) 945-1191	gandrew@marinwater.org
➤ Calif. Coastal Commission, Water Quality Unit	http://www.coastal.ca.gov/nps/npsndx.html	Lisa Sniderman	(415) 904-5270	lsniderman@coastal.ca.gov
➤ San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board	http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/	Leslie Ferguson	(510) 622-2344	lferguson@waterboards.ca.gov
➤ State Water Resources Control Board	http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/	Heidi Hall	(916) 323-2871	hhall@waterboards.ca.gov
➤ California Coastal Conservancy	http://www.coastalconservancy.ca.gov/	Karyn Gear	(510) 286-4171	kgear@scc.ca.gov
➤ Calif. State Parks, North Bay District	http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=469	David Boyd	(415) 898-4362	dboyd@parks.ca.gov
➤ Calif. Dept. of Fish & Game, Marine Region	http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/index.html	Laura Rogers-Bennett	(707) 875-2035	rogersbennett@ucdavis.edu
➤ Calif. Dept. of Fish & Game, Region 3	http://www.dfg.ca.gov/	Gail Seymour	(707) 944-5579	gseymour@dfg.ca.gov
➤ National Park Service, Point Reyes National Seashore	http://www.nps.gov/por/e/	Brannon Ketcham	(415) 464-5192	brannon_ketcham@nps.gov
➤ NOAA, Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary	http://farallones.noaa.gov/	Maria Brown	(415) 561-6622	maria.brown@noaa.gov